

Exhibit 21 has been filed in hard-copy format pursuant to ¶7.3 of the March 30, 2004 Confidentiality Order in this litigation.

Exhibit 22 has been filed in hard-copy format pursuant to ¶7.3 of the March 30, 2004 Confidentiality Order in this litigation.

AO 88 (Rev. 1/94) Subpoena in a Civil Case

Issued by the

United States District Court
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN RE SEPTEMBER 11TH LITIGATION
 IN RE SEPTEMBER 11TH PROPERTY DAMAGE AND
 BUSINESS LOSS LITIGATION

V.

Federal Aviation Administration
 800 Independence Avenue, SW
 To: Washington, DC 20591

SUBPOENA IN A CIVIL CASE

21 MC 97 (AKH)
 CASE NUMBER: 21 MC 101 (AKH)
 SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

- YOU ARE COMMANDED to appear in the United States District Court at the place, date, and time specified below to testify in the above case.

PLACE OF TESTIMONY	COURTROOM
	DATE AND TIME

- YOU ARE COMMANDED to appear at the place, date, and time specified below to testify at the taking of a deposition in the above case.

PLACE OF DEPOSITION United States District Court for the SDNY, 500 Pearl Street, New York, NY; See attached 30(b)(6) Deposition Notice.	DATE AND TIME September 12, 2006 - 10:00 a.m.
--	--

- YOU ARE COMMANDED to produce and permit inspection and copying of the following documents or objects at the place, date, and time specified below (list documents or objects):

PLACE Condon & Forsyth LLP, 7 Times Square, New York, NY 10036; See Document Requests attached hereto as Schedule A.	DATE AND TIME August 14, 2006 - 10:00 a.m.
--	---

- YOU ARE COMMANDED to permit inspection of the following premises at the date and time specified below.

PREMISES	DATE AND TIME

Any organization not a party to this suit is subpoenaed for the taking of a deposition shall designate one or more officers, directors, or managing agents, or other persons who consent to testify on its behalf, and may set forth, for each person designated, the matters on which the person will testify. Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, 30(b)(6).

ISSUING OFFICER SIGNATURE AND TITLE (INDICATE IF ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF OR DEFENDANT)	DATE
Des Barry - H# Aviation Defendants' Liaison Counsel*	July 14, 2006

ISSUING OFFICER'S NAME, ADDRESS, AND PHONE NUMBER
 Des Barry, Aviation Defendants' Liaison Counsel, Condon & Forsyth LLP, 7 Times Square, New York, NY 10036, (212) 894-6770.

(See Rule 45, Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Parts C & D on Reverse)

1 If action is pending in district other than district of issuance, state district under case number.

*Requesting Aviation Defendants consist of American Airlines, Inc., AMR Corp., United Airlines, Inc., UAL Corporation, Colgan Air, Inc., US Airways, Inc., US Airways Group, Argenbright Security, Inc., Globe Aviation Services Inc., and Huntleigh USA Corp., Inc. US Airways Group, Inc. and US Airways, Inc. join in these demands solely with respect to the PI/WD and PD/BL claimants who have signed the stipulation entered in their bankruptcy cases. The Plan Injunction remains in effect for any and all remaining claims.

AO 88 (Rev. 1/94) Subpoena in a Civil Case

PROOF OF SERVICE

DATE

PLACE

SERVED

SERVED ON (PRINT NAME)	MANNER OF SERVICE
SERVED BY (PRINT NAME)	TITLE

DECLARATION OF SERVER

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing information contained in the Proof of Service is true and correct.

Executed on

Date

Signature of Server

Address of Server

RULE 45, Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Part C & D:

(c) PROTECTION OF PERSONS SUBJECT TO SUBPOENAS.

(1) A party or an attorney responsible for the issuance and service of a subpoena shall take reasonable steps to avoid imposing undue burden or expense on a person subject to that subpoena. The court on behalf of which the subpoena was issued shall enforce this duty and impose upon the party or attorney in breach of this duty an appropriate sanction which may include, but is not limited to, lost earnings and reasonable attorney's fee.

(2) (A) A person commanded to produce and permit inspection and copying of designated books, papers, documents or tangible things, or inspection of premises need not appear in person at the place of production or inspection unless commanded to appear for deposition, hearing or trial.

(B) Subject to paragraph (d) (2) of this rule, a person commanded to produce and permit inspection and copying may, within 14 days after service of subpoena or before the time specified for compliance if such time is less than 14 days after service, serve upon the party or attorney designated in the subpoena written objection to inspection or copying of any or all of the designated materials or of the premises. If objection is made, the party serving the subpoena shall not be entitled to inspect and copy materials or inspect the premises, except pursuant to an order of the court by which the subpoena was issued. If objection has been made, the party serving the subpoena may, upon notice to the person commanded to produce, move at any time for an order to compel the production. Such an order to compel production shall protect any person who is not a party or an officer of a party from significant expense resulting from the inspection and copying commanded.

(3) (A) On timely motion, the court by which a subpoena was issued shall quash or modify the subpoena if it

- (i) fails to allow reasonable time for compliance;
- (ii) requires a person who is not a party or an officer of a party to travel to a place more than 100 miles from the place where that

person resides, is employed or regularly transacts business in person, except that, subject to the provisions of clause (c)(3)(B)(iii) of this rule, such a person may in order to attend trial be commanded to travel from any such place within the state in which the trial is held, or

(iii) requires disclosure of privileged or other protected matter and no exception or waiver applies; or

(vi) subjects a person to undue burden.

(B) If a subpoena

(i) requires disclosure of a trade secret or other confidential research, development, or commercial information, or

(ii) requires disclosure of an un-retained expert's opinion or information not describing specific events or occurrences in dispute and resulting from the expert's study made not at the request of any party, or

(iii) requires a person who is not a party or an officer of a party to incur substantial expense to travel more than 100 miles to attend trial, the court may, to protect a person subject to or affected by the subpoena, quash or modify the subpoena, or, if the party in whose behalf the subpoena is issued shows a substantial need for the testimony or material that cannot be otherwise met without undue hardship and assures that the person to whom the subpoena is addressed will be reasonably compensated, the court may order appearance or production only upon specified conditions.

(d) DUTIES IN RESPONDING TO SUBPOENA.

(1) A person responding to a subpoena to produce documents shall produce them as they are kept in the usual course of business or shall organize and label them to correspond with the categories in the demand.

(2) When information subject to a subpoena is withheld on a claim that it is privileged or subject to protection as trial preparation materials, the claim shall be made expressly and shall be supported by a description of the nature of the documents, communications, or things not produced that is sufficient to enable the demanding party to contest the claim.



U.S. Department of Justice
Civil Division, Federal Programs Branch

Via First-Class Mail
P.O. Box 883
Washington, D.C. 20044

Via Overnight Delivery
20 Massachusetts Ave., NW
Washington, D.C. 20001

Jeffrey M. Smith
Trial Attorney

Tel: 202/514-5751
Fax: 202/616-8202

July 28, 2006

Via Federal Express and First Class Mail

Desmond T. Barry, Jr., Esq.
Condon & Forsyth LLP
7 Times Square
New York, NY 10036

Re: District of Columbia Subpoenas to the Transportation Security Administration and
Federal Aviation Administration in In re: September 11, 2001 Litigation, 21 MC 97 and
21 MC 101 (S.D.N.Y.).

Dear Counsel:

I write in response to subpoenas issued by your firm in the above-referenced case to the Transportation Security Administration ("TSA") and the Federal Aviation Administration ("FAA") (collectively, "Agencies"). The United States Department of Justice represents the Agencies for purposes of these subpoenas. The Agencies would like to arrange a meeting to discuss ways of meeting your need for information, without unduly burdening the Agencies or permitting the improper dissemination of classified, sensitive, privileged, or other confidential information. In the meantime, this letter serves to inform you of the applicable regulations and of the Agencies' objections to the subpoenas pursuant to Federal Rule 45(c)(2)(B).

The Applicable *Touhy* Procedures

Discovery against federal agencies is governed by federal regulations, known as *Touhy* regulations after the case of *United States ex rel. Touhy v. Ragen*, 340 U.S. 462 (1951), in which the Supreme Court upheld the validity of such regulations for processing subpoenas. *See id.* at 468 (holding that the head of an agency has the authority to promulgate regulations to govern the processing of subpoenas to the agency). The rationale for such regulations was stated by the Supreme Court as follows: "When one considers the variety of information contained in the files of any government department and the possibilities of harm from unrestricted disclosure in court, the usefulness, indeed the necessity, of centralizing determination as to whether subpoenas *duces tecum* will be willingly obeyed or challenged is obvious." *Id.*

The *Touhy* regulations for the Department of Homeland Security, which includes TSA, may be found at 6 C.F.R. § 5.41 through 6 C.F.R. § 5.49. The *Touhy* regulations for the Department of Transportation, which includes FAA, may be found at 49 C.F.R. § 9.1 through 49 C.F.R. § 9.19. The

applicability of these regulations to your demands for testimony and documents is discussed below.

The Subpoenas *Ad Testificandum*

To the extent that the Requesting Defendants' Rule 45 subpoenas seek testimony from employees of TSA and FAA, the subpoenas are objectionable. Requests for testimony are handled pursuant to the Agencies' *Touhy* regulations.

In order to request testimony from TSA, the requestor must "set forth in writing, and with as much specificity as possible, the nature and relevance of the official information sought." 6 C.F.R. § 5.45(a); *see also* 6 C.F.R. § 5.44(a) (prohibiting unauthorized testimony). The Department of Homeland Security will then determine whether it will provide testimony on any of the topics sought, weighing the factors set forth in 6 C.F.R. § 5.48.

In order to request testimony from FAA, a requestor must submit a written request to the Department of Transportation providing the information set forth in 49 C.F.R. § 9.15. This information includes "[a] statement setting forth the basic facts of the proceeding," "[a] summary of the unresolved issues applicable to the testimony sought," "[a] summary of the testimony sought and its relevan[ce] to the proceeding," "[a] certification with support, that the information desired is not reasonably available from other sources," and "[a] declaration that the party will not seek expert or opinion testimony from the witness or seek the testimony of the witness at a hearing or trial in the proceeding." *Id.*

Absent compliance with the *Touhy* regulations, government employees are not authorized to testify and therefore cannot appear for, or be compelled to attend, depositions. *See Houston Bus. J., Inc. v. Office of the Comptroller of the Currency*, 86 F.3d 1208, 1212 n.4 (D.C. Cir. 1996); *Ho v. United States*, 374 F. Supp. 2d 82, 83 (D.D.C. 2005).

The Subpoenas *Duces Tecum*

Rule 45 subpoenas for documents are also subject to the procedural requirements of the Agencies' respective *Touhy* regulations. *See Touhy*, 340 U.S. at 468; *Yousuf v. Samantar*, 451 F.3d 248, 257 (D.C. Cir. 2006) (*Touhy* regulations permit the "centralizing [of an agency's] response to [a document] subpoena"). The Agencies thus will process your document subpoenas pursuant to their respective *Touhy* regulations as well as Rule 45 considerations, including, without limitation, those set below.

Rule 45 Objections

In addition to the issues raised above, the Requesting Defendants' subpoenas are objectionable under Rule 45. The Agencies object to all instructions, definitions, and requests to the extent that they exceed the requirements of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. For example, your attempt to incorporate provisions from the Local Rules for the Southern District of New York is objectionable, as the subpoenas have issued out of the District for the District of Columbia.

The Agencies also object to the subpoenas because they are vague and extremely overbroad, and impose an undue burden on the Agencies. *See Fed. R. Civ. P. 45(c)(1)* (“A party or attorney responsible for the issuance and service of a subpoena shall take reasonable steps to avoid imposing undue burden or expense on a person subject to that subpoena.”). For example, in general, the requests have no date restrictions, (*see Instruction & Definition B*), and are therefore burdensome for that reason alone. *See Linder v. Calero-Portocarrero*, 183 F.R.D. 314, 319 & n.6 (D.D.C. 1998). To the extent that certain requests can be read as seeking all documents generated prior to September 11, 2001, they are still overly broad as they do not contain a reasonable beginning date restriction for the search. Additionally, the vast majority of the requests seek “[a]ll Documents” that “concern[]” broad categories, providing little guidance as to what documents you seek, and presenting the Agencies with onerous burdens. Indeed, these 62 requests (plus numerous subparts) would require the production of massive amounts of documents and would impose excessive search and production burdens on the Agencies in violation of Rule 45.

A number of your requests appear to seek documents that are in the possession of the Requesting Defendants. *See, e.g.*, Requests 11, 33, 35, 38, 40, 42, 43, 46, 58. The Agencies object to your requests to the extent that they seek documents that are already in the possession of one or more of the parties. Additionally, much of the information that you seek is available from public sources. The Agencies object to each request to the extent that it seeks information that is already in the public domain.

A large number of your requests also appear to seek inter- or intra-agency communications. Such requests implicate a host of governmental privileges such as the deliberative process privilege and law enforcement privileges. The Agencies object to any request for material that is subject to these or any other privileges.

The Agencies object to each of your requests because they call for the production of Sensitive Security Information (“SSI”) and/or classified national security information. Classified information will not be produced under any circumstances. Any documents that may contain SSI must be reviewed and redacted by the Transportation Security Administration. SSI is “information obtained or developed in the conduct of security activities . . . which TSA has determined would . . . be detrimental to the security of transportation.” 49 C.F.R. § 1520.5(a)(3). TSA’s regulations restrict disclosure of SSI to those persons with a regulatory need to know the information. 49 C.F.R. §§ 1520.7, 1520.11; *cf.* 49 U.S.C. § 114(s)(1)(C). To the extent that TSA determines that SSI is present, that information cannot be released. Information designated SSI is privileged and may not be released in the civil discovery process, and district courts lack jurisdiction to review SSI designations or to order the disclosure of SSI in civil discovery. 49 U.S.C. § 46110; *see, e.g.*, *Chowdhury v. Northwest Airlines Corp.*, 226 F.R.D. 608 (N.D. Cal. 2004).¹

¹ The Agencies recognize that the Requesting Defendants are entities that have access to SSI in the course of their businesses. However, other parties to this litigation are not entitled to access to SSI, and it appears that the discovery that you seek would become available to all parties. *See Letter from Desmond T. Barry, Jr. to Beth E. Goldman & Sarah S. Normand*, at 1 (July 14, 2006) (suggesting a meeting relating to these subpoenas be open “to all parties to the litigation who wish to attend”); Fed.

The Agencies also object that the subpoenas do not provide sufficient time for compliance. As the discussion above illustrates, the breadth of these sixty-two requests (plus subparts) is substantial and implicates numerous privilege issues. The time required to locate and review responsive documents would be substantially more than the one month allotted in the subpoena.

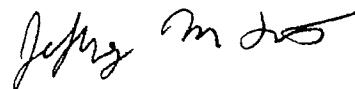
The Agencies also object to your designation of document production and deposition sites in New York, when the subpoenas were issued from the District for the District of Columbia and the Agencies are located in the D.C. area. See Fed. R. Civ. P. 45(a)(2), (b)(1).

For all of these reasons, the Agencies object to your subpoenas. The foregoing concerns and objections are not exhaustive, and the Agencies reserve the right to assert further objections in response to your requests for information, as appropriate.

* * *

The Agencies would like to work with the Requesting Defendants to reach an agreement that will provide the Requesting Defendants with the information that is appropriate for use in the September 11 Litigation, while protecting the Agencies from undue burden and preventing the dissemination of privileged, classified, and sensitive information. To that end, we look forward to meeting with you at a mutually convenient date to discuss these issues. We propose a meeting on the afternoon of August 9th in Washington, D.C. If that date is unworkable for you, then we would be available the following week. We request that you take into account the objections stated above and narrow your requests accordingly, in order to facilitate an agreement that is acceptable to both the Requesting Defendants and the Agencies.

Sincerely,



JEFFREY M. SMITH
Trial Attorney
Federal Programs Branch

cc: All Liaison Counsel (by e-mail)

R. Civ. P. 30(b)(1) (stating that all parties are entitled to attend each deposition and to designation of documents produced by witnesses).

U.S. Department of Justice



*United States Attorney
Southern District of New York*

*86 Chambers Street, Third Floor
New York, New York 10007*

April 10, 2007

BY FACSIMILE AND ELECTRONIC MAIL

Hon. Alvin K. Hellerstein
United States District Judge
United States Courthouse
500 Pearl Street, Room 1050
New York, NY 10007

Re: In re September 11 Litigation
21 MC 97 & 101 (AKH)

Dear Judge Hellerstein:

We write respectfully to advise the Court of the Government's position regarding the motion filed by plaintiffs and cross-claim plaintiffs (collectively, "plaintiffs") on April 4, 2007, to quash the Rule 30(b)(6) deposition of the Federal Aviation Administration ("FAA"), and to request that the Court set an expedited schedule for resolution of plaintiffs' motion.

Principally, plaintiffs request that the Court adjourn the deposition pending (1) their review of documents that will be made available in the Sensitive Security Information ("SSI") reading room upon the completion of the attorney clearance process, and (2) the Court's disposition of the forthcoming motion by the aviation defendants' concerning the scope of government discovery. Alternatively, plaintiffs request that the Court limit the scope of the Notice of Deposition served by the aviation defendants.

Plaintiffs' Request for an Adjournment

The Government has no objection to plaintiffs' request for an adjournment of the Rule 30(b)(6) deposition. As we stated in our letter dated March 30, 2007, a copy of which is attached to plaintiffs' memorandum of law, the FAA and TSA are prepared to provide a Rule 30(b)(6) deposition on certain limited topics, but in accordance with the applicable Touhy regulations, the FAA and TSA will only make a witness (or witnesses) available for a single Rule 30(b)(6) deposition in this proceeding. See 49

C.F.R. § 9.9(d).¹ Accordingly, if parties require additional time to review documents, or if the outcome of the aviation defendants' motion may bear on issues that the parties (plaintiffs or defendants) wish to explore in the deposition, the Government does not oppose an adjournment for those purposes.

Plaintiffs note that they did not participate in the meet and confer between the aviation defendants and the Government regarding the scope of the aviation defendants' request for deposition testimony. See Pl. Mem. at 2. The purpose of that meeting was to discuss the aviation defendants' Touhy request and to narrow defendants' proposed list of topics. We have had similar informal discussions with plaintiffs regarding their various Touhy requests. To the extent plaintiffs wish to meet with us to discuss the scope of the Rule 30(b)(6) deposition, or any other outstanding request for Government discovery, we are willing to do so. Again, because the FAA and TSA are only willing to provide a single Rule 30(b)(6) deposition, any such discussions must take place reasonably in advance of the commencement of the deposition.

Plaintiffs' Alternative Request to Limit the Notice of Deposition

Plaintiffs alternatively request that the Court limit the Notice of Deposition by excluding certain topics that seek to elicit from the FAA opinion testimony, legal conclusions, or interpretations of regulatory requirements. See Pl. Mem. at 6. As noted in our March 30 letter, the FAA and TSA have not yet issued a formal decision authorizing testimony under the applicable Touhy regulations.² The agencies may not authorize testimony on all of the topics listed in the Notice of Deposition, and they may not authorize testimony on the topics as framed in the Notice of Deposition, particularly where we have previously advised the aviation defendants that particular topics

¹ We do not agree with plaintiffs' apparent suggestion, see Pl. Mem. at 4, that the United States' intervention in this matter on behalf of the Transportation Security Administration ("TSA") for the limited purpose of protecting SSI renders the Government a party for purposes of discovery. FAA and TSA have agreed to provide a Rule 30(b)(6) deposition pursuant to their Touhy regulations governing requests for discovery in litigation to which the Government is not a party. See 6 C.F.R. §§ 5.41 et seq.; 49 C.F.R. §§ 9.1 et seq.

² The agencies' final decision will be reviewable by this Court in a separate action filed pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act and designated as related to this litigation.

are objectionable. With regard to the specific objections noted in plaintiffs' motion, we have previously advised the aviation defendants that the FAA and TSA are unlikely to authorize a witness to testify concerning expert opinions, legal conclusions, or interpretations that go beyond the specific regulatory requirements at issue. See 49 C.F.R. § 9.9(b)-(c).

Request for Expedited Treatment of Plaintiffs' Motion to Quash

The Government is concerned about the timing for resolution of plaintiffs' motion to quash. It is enormously time-consuming and burdensome to prepare for a Rule 30(b)(6) deposition of the FAA. Further, the preparation of such a witness or witnesses (and, in some instances, identifying them) initially depends on the areas of inquiry and their scope. We are concerned about having to undertake the effort to prepare a witness to testify during the first week of May, only to have the deposition adjourned to a later date, thus requiring duplication of effort and compounding the burdens associated with the deposition.

We therefore respectfully request that the Court set an expedited schedule for resolution of plaintiffs' motion, so that the Government will know how to proceed no later than April 17. Alternatively, if a normal briefing schedule will apply to the pending motion to quash, then the Government respectfully requests that the deposition be adjourned until at least fifteen days after the motion is decided.

We thank the Court for its consideration of this submission.

Respectfully,

PETER D. KEISLER
Assistant Attorney General

DOUGLAS N. LETTER
JEFFREY SMITH
U.S. Department of Justice

LOIS B. OSLER
CAROLYN G. MCKEE
AMY A. RUGGERI
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Transportation Security Administration

RICHARD SALTSMAN
Federal Aviation Administration

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U.S. Department of Justice



*United States Attorney
Southern District of New York*

86 Chambers Street
New York, New York 10007

March 21, 2007

By Electronic Mail

The Honorable Alvin K. Hellerstein
United States District Judge
United States Courthouse
Southern District of New York
500 Pearl Street
New York, New York 10007

Re: In Re September 11 Tort Litigation
21 MC 97 (AKH) & 21 MC 101 (AKH)

Dear Judge Hellerstein:

In anticipation of the conference scheduled for March 22, 2007, we write to provide the Court with a status report detailing the progress made by the Government in discovery in this case.

SSI Review

Since October 6, 2006, TSA has reviewed 68,675 pages for Sensitive Security Information, of which 66,583 were released in full. Those documents included American and United Third Wave documents, and documents subpoenaed from third parties.

The TSA/DOJ team has attended 50 depositions and reviewed more than 11,000 pages of deposition transcripts. In addition, TSA has accommodated requests from the parties for review or re-review of approximately 3000 pages for use at the depositions. Many of these requests for re-review have come on one or two days' notice, and TSA has nevertheless completed the review - often involving hundreds of pages - in time for the depositions.

Hon. Alvin K. Hellerstein
 March 21, 2007
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Reading Room

We have established a reading room at 26 Federal Plaza, 29th Floor, for use by the parties for review of SSI. We have also submitted for the Court's signature a Stipulated Protective Order Governing Access to, Handling of, and Disposition of Potential Sensitive Security Information. This Stipulated Protective Order is the result of a cooperative effort among the plaintiffs, cross-claim plaintiffs, aviation defendants and TSA to establish a mechanism by which cleared attorneys can review and use SSI during discovery. We are in the process of placing documents in the reading room, and expect to open the reading room immediately upon clearance of the lawyers designated by the parties.

Under the Stipulated Protective Order and pursuant to Section 525(d) of the Department of Homeland Security Act, 2007, Pub. L. No. 109-295, 120 Stat. 1355, access to SSI is restricted to those who have undergone a clearance procedure. The Stipulated Protective Order provides that each group of parties in the litigation - the plaintiffs, the aviation defendants and the cross-claim plaintiffs - must designate lawyers to be cleared for access to the reading room in accordance with the formula set forth in paragraph 5. The parties have indicated that they will shortly provide a list of their designations (and in some cases they already have), and accordingly, we have arranged for investigators from the United States Attorney's Office to be available on March 22, beginning at 10 a.m., to collect clearance materials and fingerprints. We anticipate that the clearance process itself will be completed in a brief time-period, and that the reading room will be populated in the next few weeks.

Discovery Requests of Other Government Agencies

In July 2006, the aviation defendants served voluminous requests for documents on TSA and FAA.¹ In response, TSA has

¹ Defendants' portion of the joint letter submitted yesterday stated that the government has only recently begun to produce documents in response to requests propounded in February 2005 and July 2006. Defendants have since clarified that the reference to discovery requests in February 2005 was in error. In fact, no party propounded any discovery on the government until July 2006. After a period of negotiation in which TSA provided an index of documents submitted to the 9/11 Commission

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gathered and produced more than 8000 pages to date, including pages designated for the reading room.

In addition to the requests made by defendants for documents from TSA and FAA, plaintiffs and defendants have sought documents from numerous other federal agencies and depositions of current and former government officials and persons in United States custody.

First, plaintiffs, cross-claim plaintiffs, and the aviation defendants have made numerous requests for documents from the FBI. The investigation of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, is the largest investigation in the history of the FBI and comprises millions of pages of documents, many of which contain classified national security information and/or information protected by the law enforcement or other privileges. The FBI's investigation is continuing, and prosecutions of individuals involved in the attacks are contemplated. Accordingly, the requested information must be reviewed by the FBI and other components of the Department of Justice ("DOJ"), and in some cases other agencies, prior to production. The process of gathering responsive documents, reviewing them for privileged and classified information, and making judgments about what information can and cannot be produced is tremendously time-consuming and diverts FBI and other DOJ personnel from their primary duties in investigating and prosecuting the underlying matters.

For all of these reasons, the requests for FBI document discovery pose enormous logistical and resource concerns for the government, as well as serious concerns about protection of classified and privileged information. Nevertheless, the FBI is prepared to work with the parties in an effort to provide reasonably available, unclassified, non-privileged information that is relevant and material to the litigation. The FBI has already spent more than 1100 hours on the process of gathering and reviewing responsive documents. In an effort to streamline the process, prevent piecemeal requests, reduce the burden on FBI and DOJ of searching for and reviewing responsive documents, and facilitate more efficient responses to the requests, by letter dated March 16, 2007, we outlined a procedure for the parties to obtain document discovery from the FBI. Among other things, we

and the defendants requested documents from that list, TSA began producing documents in January 2007.

Hon. Alvin K. Hellerstein
March 21, 2007
Page 4

have asked that any further requests be made by April 16, 2007, that they be specific and narrowly tailored, and that the parties make every effort to avoid duplicative requests.

Second, the aviation defendants have made Touhy requests for the depositions of several former high-level government officials: George Tenet, Louis Freeh, Richard Clarke, and Jane Garvey. We have agreed with the defendants to put aside the request for Ms. Garvey, former head of the FAA, and instead focus on their request for a 30(b)(6) witness from the FAA. We are in the process of discussing appropriate topics for such a deposition, and as reflected in Mr. Barry's March 20 letter to the Court, we have indicated a target date of the first week of May for the deposition.

As for former Directors Freeh and Tenet, the appropriate government agencies have responded to the Touhy requests and stated their objections to those depositions proceeding. These objections include the fact that defendants have not adequately demonstrated the relevance of the proposed testimony, as well as concerns regarding classified information and other applicable privileges, among other things. As for Mr. Clarke, Touhy is inapplicable because the National Security Council does not have Touhy regulations. Nevertheless, by letter dated March 14, 2007, the government has stated its objections to a deposition of Mr. Clarke, including concerns over relevance, classified information and other privileges. In his letter, Mr. Barry accurately describes our agreement with the aviation defendants to proceed before Your Honor on any challenges to the government's position with respect to these three requests for depositions.

Third, during the last two weeks, we have received numerous requests from the aviation defendants for additional depositions. On March 6, 2007, the defendants provided a list of witnesses they seek to depose consisting of various current and former FBI and CIA agents who testified at the Moussaoui trial. On March 15, 2007, the defendants also requested the depositions of Khalid Sheik Mohammed and Ramzi Binalshibh, who are detained at the United States Naval Base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. On March 20, 2007, Massport served additional requests to depose two FAA employees. All of these requests are under review.

Hon. Alvin K. Hellerstein
March 21, 2007
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Fourth Circuit Decision in Moussaoui

As Your Honor is aware, plaintiffs in this action sought to obtain in the criminal proceeding pending in the Eastern District of Virginia against Zacarias Moussaoui non-public discovery material that the government had provided to Moussaoui's defense team in the course of the criminal case against him. In a decision dated March 14, 2007, the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit reversed the lower court ruling granting plaintiffs access to such materials.

The Fourth Circuit found that neither the Crime Victims Rights Act, 18 U.S.C. § 3771, nor the Air Transportation Safety and System Stabilization Act (ATSSSA), Pub. L. No. 107-42, 115 Stat. 230, 237 (2001), nor the district court's inherent authority supported an order allowing plaintiffs access to non-public materials produced to a defendant in a criminal proceeding. Thus, the court ruled that plaintiffs here may not obtain discovery through the criminal proceeding against Moussaoui, but rather must rely on the normal civil discovery process in this proceeding. See United States v. Moussaoui, - F.3d -, 2007 WL 755276, at *14 (4th Cir. Mar. 14, 2007). As discussed above, the government has been working cooperatively with the parties to facilitate appropriate discovery in this matter, while limiting the burden on government resources and protecting sensitive information.

Respectfully,

PETER D. KEISLER
Assistant Attorney General

DOUGLAS N. LETTER
ALEXANDER HAAS
U.S. Department of Justice

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